

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 THE HA 03621 171402Z

50

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PA-03

USIA-15 PRS-01 RSR-01 L-03 H-03 /087 W

----- 113208

R 171145Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1851

INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM UNN

AMCONSUL ANTWERP

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL ROTTERDAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 3621

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, CASC, XT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: STRANDEES

REF: A) HAGUE 3418 (NOTAL)

B) BRUSSELS 4650 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. MISSIONS IN WESTERN EUROPE WILL FACE PROBLEMS IN NEXT FEW WEEKS WITH GROUPS OF AMERICAN AIR CHARTER PASSENGERS WHOSE RETURN TICKETS OR VOUCHERS ARE NOT RECOGNIZED OR WHOSE FLIGHTS ARE CANCELLED. ACTION IS REQUESTED CONCERNING KINDS OF ASSISTANCE WHICH MAY

BE OFFERED BY MISSIONS AND WHICH MAY INVOLVE WASHINGTON ACTION IN AVIATION OR CONSULAR AFFAIRS. END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 THE HA 03621 171402Z

1. REFTELS REFER TO TWO RECENT CASES OF STRANDED PASSENGER GROUPS

AND MORE ARE EXPECTED. ASSISTANCE MISSIONS CAN OFFER IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. SHOW SYMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING.

B. ADVISE PASSENGERS:

(1) WHAT THEIR CHANCES ARE TO USE THEIR TICKETS (USUALLY THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY BY THE TIME THEY COME TO US),

(2) WHAT THEIR ALTERNATIVES ARE, I.E. TO APPLY PRESSURE ON TRAVEL AGENTS TO PRODUCE TRANSPORTATION THEY HAVE SOLD OR REFUND MONEY, OR TO RAISE MORE MONEY THEMSELVES.

C. DISCUSS MATTER WITH LOCAL AVIATION AUTHORITIES AND/OR TRAVEL AGENT CONCERNED IN EFFORT TO REACH SOLUTION.

D. ADVANCE SMALL AMOUNTS OF MONEY, IF AND WHEN AVAILABLE FROM LOCAL CHARITY SOURCES, IN CASE STRANDEE IS HUNGRY AND PENNILESS.

(HAS DEPARTMENT CONSIDERED REQUESTING APPROPRIATION OF SMALL FUND FOR SUCH PURPOSES, FOR STRANDEES AND OTHERS? SEE PARA 4B (3) ).

E. FACILITATE APPLICATION FOR REPATRIATION LOAN, A TIME-CONSUMING PROCESS, ON RARE OCCASION WHEN STRANDEE IS TRULY INDIGENT.

2. WHAT WE CANNOT OFFER IS SUBSTANTIAL EARLY ASSISTANCE IN TRANSPORTATION

TO U.S., CONSISTING OF MONEY, OR ARRANGEMENTS WITH AIRLINES FOR LOW-FARE OR FREE TRANSPORTATION. LOCAL AUTHORITIES MAY, OF COURSE, AUTHORIZE FREE OR LOW-COST TRANSPORTATION (SUBJECT TO CAB APPROVAL) IF THEY FEEL NEED TO DO SO, BUT MISSIONS ARE NOT IN POSITION TO REQUEST THEM TO DO SO.

3. PROBLEM OF STRANDEES IS PRESENTED IN VARYING DEGREES:

A. BARGAIN HUNTER WHO HAS RESOURCES HE IS WILLING TO USE WHEN HIS BARGAIN DOESN'T PAN OUT--NO REAL PROBLEM.

B. PASSENGER WHO CANNOT OR WILL NOT PRODUCE OR RAISE MONEY FOR LEGAL TRANSPORTATION. THIS INCLUDES WIDE RANGE OF PEOPLE, FROM PERSON WHO BOUGHT ILLEGAL TRANSPORTATION WITH HIS EYES OPEN AND INSISTS VOCIFEROUSLY ON HIS RIGHTS, TO PERSON WHO MADE HONEST MISTAKE AND IS IN POSITION OF HARDSHIP (ESPECIALLY IF OLD AGE, DISABILITY OR SMALL CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED). LATTER CATEGORY IS THE KIND THAT MOVES MISSION OFFICERS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO GO TO ALL POSSIBLE LENGTHS TO SOLVE PROBLEM.

4. WE REQUEST DEPARTMENT:CAB'S URGENT CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 THE HA 03621 171402Z

WHICH CAN AID IN SOLUTION:

A. SUPPLY ANY INFORMATION WHICH MAY HELP MISSIONS IN DEALING WITH CARRIERS OR TRAVEL AGENTS. FOR EXAMPLE,

(1) IS THERE A REQUIREMENT THAT AGENT MUST PAY AIRLINE FOR CONTRACTED SERVICES CERTAIN TIME IN ADVANCE?

(2) DOES VOUCHER ISSUED BY TRAVEL AGENT HAVE SAME VALIDITY AS TICKET ISSUED BY AIRLINE? IF NOT, WHAT IS MINIMUM TIME BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR EXCHANGE OF VOUCHER FOR TICKET?

B. TAKE ACTION IN U.S. ALONG THESE LINES:

(1) INDUCE STATESIDE TRAVEL AGENT TO PROVIDE ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION OR REFUND MONEY IMMEDIATELY TO PASSENGERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO USE TICKETS OR VOUCHERS HE HAS SOLD THEM. (THIS IS PARALLEL TO STEPS WE WOULD TAKE WITH TRAVEL AGENTS HERE.)

(2) ACT ON REQUESTS FROM MISSIONS FOR AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATE CARRIERS TO TRANSPORT SPECIFIC GROUPS OF HARDSHIPS PASSENGERS RETURNING TO U.S. AT REDUCED FARES. SUCH REQUESTS WOULD BE MADE ONLY WITH CONCURRENCE OF LOCAL AVIATION AUTHORITIES AND IN LINE WITH FARE LEVEL RECOMMENDED BY THEM. (WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS GOES BEYOND NORMAL PRACTICE OF NOT ISSUING SUCH AUTHORITY UNLESS REQUESTED BY CARRIERS, BUT URGENT NEEDS, ESPECIALLY AS RECOGNIZED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES, JUSTIFY AS DIRECT APPROACH AS POSSIBLE).

(3) SEEK APPROPRIATION FOR SMALL REVOLVING FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY CONSULS FOR IMMEDIATE NECESSITIES OF PENNILESS AMERICANS (SEE PARA 1 D).

C. ADVISE MISSIONS OF ANY OTHER SOLUTIONS WHICH MIGHT BE PURSUED IN WASHINGTON OR POSTS IN AREA OF SPECIAL CONSULAR SERVICES.

BLODGETT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** hilburpw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973THEHA03621  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** THE HAGUE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730830/aaaaavmg.tel  
**Line Count:** 135  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A) HAGUE 3418 (NOTAL)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hilburpw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <19-Sep-2001 by hilburpw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR: STRANDEES  
**TAGS:** ETRN, CASC, XT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005